

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-8 are amended, and claims 9-16 are added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) indicating that "the limitation in claims 6-8, of frame rails attached to the rear side of the panel must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s)." The feature has been canceled from the claims. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Each of the Examiner's comments have been addressed in amending claim 2. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Saita, U.S. Patent No. 6,054,803. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Saita discloses a color selecting mechanism 1 for a color cathode ray tube. The color selecting mechanism 1 includes supporting members 2, 3 and elasticity applying members 4, 5. A mask member or color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is stretched between the supporting members 2, 3. The color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is formed of a thin metal plate in which a number of thin belt shaped grid elements 8 are aligned in one direction at a predetermined pitch and a slit shaped electron beam penetrating aperture 9 in a vertical direction of the picture screen is formed between respective neighboring grid elements 8. The color

of the picture screen is formed between respective neighboring grid elements 8. The color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is fixed on the opposing supporting members 2, 3 by means of seam welding. Reference numeral 17 designates a seam welded orbit and reference numeral 18 denotes a space or so called periphery portion between an end portion of the electron beam penetrating aperture 9 and the seam welded orbit 17. As can be seen in Figure 5 of Saita, the seam welded orbit 17 is a very thin area in which the color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is welded to the supporting member 2, 3.

Saita teaches that a relationship between a length "a" of a slit shaped electron beam aperture 9 to a distance "b" to the seam welded orbit 17 from an end portion of electron beam penetrating aperture 9, that is, "b/a" is set equal to or less than 2.5 percent. However, Saita does not disclose or suggest a relationship between a shortest distance from an outermost end of a main frame welded to the shadow mask to an interface between an effective area and a non-effective area of the shadow mask and a width of a mask welding part formed at an upper part of the main frame, as recited in independent claim 1. That is, the length "a" and distance "b" taught by Saita are very different from the claimed distance and width of claim 1.

The Examiner is directed to Figure 3 of the present application, for example, in which reference numeral " t_M " represents a shortest distance from an outermost end of a main frame welded to the shadow mask to an interface between an effective area and a non-effective area of the shadow mask. Reference numeral " t_W " represents a width of a mask welding part formed at an upper part of the main frame. Claim 1 recites that the shadow mask should satisfy the equation $0.14 \leq \frac{t_W}{t_M} \leq 1.0$.

In the Saita reference t_W , the width of the mask welding part, would only be the width of the seam welded orbit 17. t_M would represent the distance between an outermost edge of the main frame 2 and an interface between an effective area and a non-effective area of the shadow mask. In Figure 5, this distance is given as b. If one measures these two distances in the embodiment shown in Figure 5, $t_W \div t_M = 0.08$. Thus, the embodiment shown in Figure 5 of Saita fails to satisfy the equation set forth in claim 1.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 1 should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2-4 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saita. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claim 5 is allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which it depends, as well as for its added features.

The Office Action rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saita in view of Ragland, U.S. Patent No. 5,644,192, in further view of Takagi, U.S. Patent No. 5,406,168. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ragland and Takagi fail to overcome the deficiencies of Saita discussed above with respect to independent claim 1. Dependent claim 5 is allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which it depends, as well as for its added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saita, in view of Dietch et al. (hereinafter "Dietch"), U.S. Patent No. 4,737,681. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Saita fails to disclose or suggest the claimed equation and relationship between a shortest distance from an outermost end of a main frame welded to the shadow mask to an interface between the effective area and the non-effective area and a width of a mask welding part formed at an upper part of the main frame. Dietch fails to overcome the deficiencies of Saita.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 6 should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 7-8 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 6, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

Added claims 9-16 are also allowable over the applied prior art for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claims 1 and 6, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carol L. Druzbeck**, at the telephone number listed below.

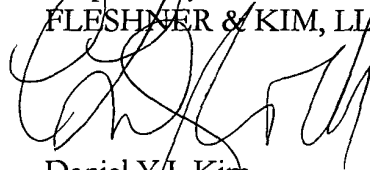
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

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concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

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